

Dear Reservoir Community,

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you of my decision to take a new position within the Howard County Public School System. My time at Reservoir has been the most enjoyable, memorable, and professionally fulfilling time of my teaching career. The tremendous success of the Reservoir music programs demands the highest level of commitment from everyone involved. As you know, raising a family involves the same level of commitment. It has become increasingly difficult to balance my two families- the Reservoir bands and my girls at home, and it would not be fair to you if I am unable to be as dedicated as I have been in the past.

This has been an incredibly difficult decision to make. The thought of leaving wonderful students, parents, administrators, faculty and staff, and of course, my fellow music department directors has been beyond tough. I have been thinking about this change for about 3-4 years and with our recent addition to the family, now seems to be the right moment. An instrumental director position became available at Worthington Elementary School, where I went to school as a child, and I was interviewed and offered the job. It is, like Reservoir, an outstanding school with a wonderfully supportive community.

To make this transition as smooth as possible, Mr. Saunderson invited me to take part in the selection process for Reservoir's new Director of Bands. He, Dr. Knauf, Mr. O'Bryan, Mrs. Brown, and I interviewed several excellent candidates. The position was offered to and accepted by Mr. David Bacon. Mr. Bacon has very impressive credentials; he comes from the state of Virginia, where he directed high school bands, jazz ensembles, and competitive marching band. He brings a high level of excitement and enthusiasm to the table, and I know that I will be leaving you in great hands. At this point, he will pick up where I leave off, continuing the exact same rehearsal and performance schedule, including marching clinics and band camp. I know that Mr. Bacon is very excited to start the year and will be communicating with everyone soon.

I am very excited about the direction in which RHS is headed under the leadership of Mr. Bacon. I will always continue to be the biggest fan of the Reservoir Bands and Music Department. This is something that, no matter where I go, will never leave me. I wish you all continued success and know that I will miss you very, very much.

Sincerely yours,
Matthew Dubbs